

Last Day of Release 1999/09/17 : CIA-RDP75-0014

# Dulles Still Received Briefings With Speech Almost Gone

Last of three articles

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Herald Tribune News Service

Only once during his last days did Mr. Dulles indicate to his immediate family that he realized death was near.

This occurred the weekend of April 22, a month before he died.

It was during a conversation with Mrs. Dulles, in which she said that one of their sons, Father Avery Dulles, would be flying to Washington soon from Rome. In bringing this news, Mrs. Dulles had tried to keep her voice as matter-of-fact as possible so as not to give concern to her husband.

"That's wonderful, Janet," Mr. Dulles responded. Then he asked with reference to his other son, John, an engineer in Mexico City, and his daughter, "Are the other children coming too?" In confirming the fact that the rest of the family had been notified, Mrs. Dulles realized that he knew the truth.

It is clear that the Secretary realized the truth of his condition from the moment that he decided to resign. His decision was made in Florida, where he had gone March 30 to rest and recuperate.

During this holiday, he tried determinedly to make a physical comeback, resting in the sun and swimming daily.

## Suffers New Pain

Then came a totally new pain, in the back of his neck. At first, he tried to make light of it, referring to it as "this neuralgia." But the pain became more persistent. It was impossible to brush away the obvious implication: his cancer was spreading.

By Friday, April 10, after a trip to a local hospital for an X-ray of his neck, Mr. Dulles yielded to the obvious and decided to return to Walter Reed Hospital.

Meanwhile, he had a few talks with his brother, Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, who was vacationing close by in Palm Beach. Sadly, he asked Allen to fly to Augusta, Ga., where President Eisenhower was vacationing, to tell him of his determination to resign.

On Saturday, April 11, when he went to Augusta and saw the President, for every time he mentioned resignation, Mr. Eisenhower refused to entertain the idea. The President's position was that the only proper course was for the Secretary to get back to work at Walter Reed and be examined by doctors familiar with his case. Until all the medical facts were in, Mr. Eisenhower said, he didn't even want to hear the word resignation.

The next day, April 12, Secretary Dulles was back at Walter Reed, and that evening occurred a most heart-rending episode.

It was connected with a phenomenon in cancer cases known as a remission. This is a temporary period during which the patient suddenly finds his pain lifting and is filled with a feeling of well-being.

Remembering Lillian Brown

It became plain that Mr. Dulles was better. For a while, then, that last evening, when the hospital doctor entered his room to check on him, Mr. Dulles was in such excellent mood that he said to Gen. Heaton:

"I feel so good tonight. Doctor, I don't think I may be able to make it out all to the Geneva foreign ministers conference." The reference was to the East-West conference on Berlin crisis scheduled to open in Geneva on May 11.

The next morning, the remission had passed and the pain returned full force. X-rays showed that the cancer was spreading. A medical bulletin to this effect was given to the press and the grim facts were splashed across the headlines of Tuesday papers.

That afternoon, Mr. Dulles read the paper somewhat late as he had taken an unusually long nap. He was especially struck by those papers which implied that he was seriously ill.

By now he was convinced that any further delay in announcing his resignation was futile. On Tuesday night he instructed his special assistant, Joseph N. Gurnea, to telephone White House Press Secretary James C. Hagerty in

Augusta and request that his views be conveyed to Mr. Eisenhower.

Early the next morning the President telephoned Mr. Dulles and with deep emotion agreed at last to accept his resignation.

For Mr. Dulles there was only one logical choice of a successor—Christian A. Tamm, then Under Secretary of State. He had made this clear as far back as February, on the day he called top members of his staff together just prior to re-entering Walter Reed for the operation that revealed the recurrence of cancer in his abdomen.

After the resignation Mr. Eisenhower made sure that Mr. Dulles did not suddenly feel himself shut off from the stream of great events. So, on April 23, he named Mr. Dulles White House consultant on foreign policy matters with

Cabinet rank and a salary of \$20,000 a year.

By Friday, two days before the end, Mr. Dulles could no longer speak at the White House. He could recognize the faces of Gen. Heaton and his secretary, Mr. Gurnea, but he could not speak.

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